## MISSONESTrive Toward Excellence Ad Excelleum Conamu October • 2009

#### **Offender Finance Awarded Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity**

he department's Offender Finance Office is always generating new ideas and establishing ways of doing business that greatly increase our efficiency. These efforts were highlighted this month when several staff members were awarded the Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity at the State Capitol. Specifically, the Offender Finance Office was recognized for Process Improvement, spotlighting the Offender Debit Card program.

Until 2007, it had been the department's policy to give offenders up to \$200 cash from their personal account upon release. In FY07 the department released over 20,000 offenders and paid out over \$2,000,000.00. In 2007, safety and efficiency were improved when the department began issuing offender debit cards in lieu of cash. This paperless system greatly reduced the amount of time required to complete a release and eliminated the



Pictured from left Jacquelyn Heiman, Tracy Clennin, Shanna Carl, Rodney Kueffer, Vicki Myers, Darlene Wansing and Lenny Lenger.

need for institutional couriers from around the state to make daily trips to Jefferson City for the funds.

Once the offender is released they can use the debit card at any location that displays the Visa/MasterCard logo. As long as they use their card for purchases at these location there is no cost to the offender for using the

Award continues on page 6



#### **Bell Named October Employee of the Month**



Probation and Parole Unit Supervisor Steve Bell has been named October Employee of the Month. Bell received a tip that an active parole absconder was being treated at a hospital in Kansas City. Bell's quick action in getting key

information to authorities ultimately led to the capture of a wanted individual. •

#### **Lawrence Appointed Warden** at ACC



Scott Lawrence has been appointed warden at the Algoa Correctional Center in Jefferson City. Most recently, Lawrence was warden of the Northeast Correctional Center.

> Lawrence continues on page

page 2 **HORIZON** 

#### **Message from the Director**

#### **Corrections as a Resource**

In last month's E-Horizon we were all reminded of the need to continue to promote cost savings and pursue the use of external resources when possible. Since delivering that message, I have thought about how much the Department of Corrections also contributes back to the state and our communities during these times of need. As I reflect on the past month's statewide activities for our department, it is evident just how vital this department and its staff are as a resource to others. Our success and contributions are everywhere!

As a prime example of our department's commitment to do more with less, I had the privilege of attending a ceremony this month as the department's Offender Finance Office Team was presented with the prestigious Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity for Process Improvement. That team developed a new offender release debit card process that saves the state time, money and resources. Once again corrections is highlighted for



innovation even during times when we are required to do more with less, a testament of our commitment to good government.

Within that same week, the department's annual Charitable Campaign drive ended. While this year's contributions are not yet tallied, I am confident we will again be recognized as a top state agency contributor, just as we have been for over the past decade. Last year alone our contributions exceeded \$160,000! The ongoing generosity of corrections staff will make a marked difference to many and will enable more than 1,000 statewide charities to provide services to those in need. Again, this is another benchmark that demonstrates the department's leadership and commitment to others.

We are there in times of special need, too. I have personally witnessed the department's herculean efforts to help those affected by natural disasters as offenders and staff volunteer to work side-by-side filling sandbags to

Message from Director continues on page 3





October • 2009

#### **#HORIZON**

The Missouri Department of Corrections supervises and provides rehabilitative services to adult offenders in correctional institutions and Missouiri communities to enhance public safety.

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> The HORIZON encourages signed, written (or e-mailed) correspondence.

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#### **Message from Director** continued from page 2

ward off flood waters or to clean up the debris. We share our assets and resources to include heavy equipment, refrigerated trucks, tractor trailers, buses and generator distribution just to help communities get by during times of unexpected chaos. During other times, our department shares our dog team and handlers who may be dispatched at a moment's notice to help search for a lost child. We also regularly recognize our staff that are honored for their heroic response to an accident or for valiant lifesaving efforts made possible by skills learned through department training initiatives.

On a daily basis, we make a difference. Our restorative justice initiatives provide donations and services to local food pantries, day cares, nursing homes, veteran's hospitals, schools, domestic violence shelters, third world countries and not-for-profit organizations. We regularly see department-sponsored events to include the Special Olympics, Red Cross blood drives, recycling events, toy and canned food drives, and special collections for fellow employees and their families who are in need.

We make a difference! As can be seen just in this limited listing of our humanitarian activities and events, the department and its staff make a huge difference to many individuals and communities. But even as the above programs and projects continue, we strive to do more and embark on new projects, too.

The first is to establish a partnership with local animal shelters. Our institutions would adopt local animal shelters, and the offenders would provide the shelter dogs with obedience training to make them more adoptable, thereby reducing the need for euthanasia. The program, already established at WERDCC, has been successful and helped the local animal shelter, which is overburdened with dogs who are unwanted or whose owners can no longer care for them. ERDCC, MECC and SCCC have volunteered to pilot the program at their sites with the understanding that it must operate almost exclusively from donations received from the community. If the same success is realized at those facilities as has been seen at WERDCC, the program will be expanded to include all our state institutions. We have seen the positive contributions that dogs bring to the institutional environment through the well-established CHAMPS program, also at WERDCC. With CHAMPS (Canine Helpers Allow More Possibilities), offenders provide care and training for service dogs that are given to people with disabilities. The CHAMPS program has proven to have a positive effect on the psychological and behavioral success of the offender population, and we believe a similar partnership with local animal shelters will prove to be equally beneficial.

Next, I would also like to ask staff to explore ways that we can become more energy efficient and eco-friendly in our daily work. How could we save the Earth's natural resources and eliminate waste? What can we recycle or reuse? How can we do more by using less? How can YOU make a difference? I encourage each of you to share your ideas with your supervisor or write to your division director with your suggestions. Creativity is welcomed!

Obviously this missive is much longer than usual, however, it is difficult to close when the department has so many good works completed in the past, underway or planned for the future. The employees of the Missouri Department of Corrections are a proud and generous team, worthy of the highest recognition. I am proud to serve with each of you, and during this season of thanksgiving, I wish to extend my sincerest gratitude to each of you for all that you do as you represent the department and your community.

Best wishes,

George A. Lombardi

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## Going Green: Renewable Energy Initiative Benefits Corrections

Energy savings, job creation and environment preservation are a few of the many benefits that will be realized from the new alternative energy plant located on the grounds of Jefferson City Correctional Center. Governor Jeremiah (Jay) Nixon, Department of Corrections Director **George A. Lombardi** and project stakeholders were on hand to unveil the project. This innovative concept turns trash into treasure. Methane gas, a byproduct of the nearby landfill, will be converted into electricity for the City of Columbia. Heat created during the process will provide steam and hot water to Jefferson City Correctional Center and Algoa Correctional Center, cutting the use of natural gas by 50 percent. The department anticipates the annual cost savings to be \$400,000-\$500,000.

The Jefferson City project was recently highlighted at the White House for what Governor Nixon calls "innovative thinking and action."

Columbia Mayor Darwin Hindman voiced his belief that "the future of economic development is in green initiatives." His statement is supported by the fact that 80 sustainable jobs were established with this project.



Gov. Jay Nixon, second from left, and Director George Lombardi, third from left, cut the ribbon on a new alternative energy plant.

Republic Services subsidiary, Allied Waste, runs the Jefferson City Landfill, which covers 319 acres. This is Republic's second methane gas energy project in the Show Me State. •

# Governor Nixon Appoints New Members to the Corrections Officer Certification Commission

Governor Jay Nixon has appointed Leslie Dahl, COII, of Chillicothe Correctional Center, and Richard Bee II, COII, of South Central Correctional Center, to the Corrections Officer Certification Commission. This commission makes recommendations regarding qualifications, training, testing, and certification so that correctional administrators can attract and retain qualified personnel and further the profession of corrections.

Dahl has previously served as a corrections of-

ficer at state corrections facilities in Vandalia, St. Joseph, and Tipton. Dahl also serves as an EMT for the city of Vandalia while holding her position at CCC. Her term to the board will end on October 30, 2011.

Bee has been promoted during his time at SCCC. Previously he served as a corrections officer in Jefferson City. His term on the commission will end on October 30, 2010.

#### Lawrence continued from front page

Mr. Lawrence began his employment with the department in March of 1997 as a corrections officer I at the Missouri Eastern Correctional Center. He was then promoted to corrections caseworker I at Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic & Correctional Center and to corrections caseworker II in March 2000. After just a few months, Lawrence assumed the position of functional unit manager and moved to Southeast Correctional Center. Lawrence served as the assistant warden at the Farmington Correctional Center, assistant to DAI director, and deputy warden at Eastern Reception, Diagnostic & Correctional Center in 2007.

Lawrence told the Horizon, "I have had the good fortune of working at several institutions throughout my career. Most of my experience, however, has been at higher custody level facilities. Algoa Correctional Center offers a new set of challenges and experiences for me. I am excited about the opportunity to be a part of the ACC team." •

#### Board of Probation and Parole Announces Management Appointments

**Cybelle Salzman** has been appointed district administrator at the Boonville Correctional Center institutional parole office in Boonville, Missouri. Ms. Salzman has almost two years experience as a PO III in the Boonville office and more than 10 years with the department.

Acting Board Chairman, **Brian Jamison** tells the Horizon, "Ms. Salzman has worked in virtually all of the different programming available at Boonville, and will capitalize on that experience to make certain the reports her office produces are of the highest quality and decisions take into consideration all the available programs to help offenders succeed."

In addition, **Ron Blakely** has been promoted to district administrator for District 2 in Cameron, Missouri. Blakely came to the department in 1989 as a corrections officer. He worked for the Division of Family Services before becoming a parole officer and eventually, P&P unit supervisor.

Jamison says, "Blakely brings enthusiasm, steadiness and a great passion for client success. Ron will help District 2 maintain and expand its emphasis on client success and effective supervision." •

#### **MECC Promotion**

John Hilpert has joined the MECC team as functional unit manager. Hilpert started with the department in 2005 and has held the positions of corrections officer, institutional activities coordinator, caseworker, and unit manager. Hilpert brings a wealth of information, enthusiasm, and energy that is imperative for a supervisory position.

### Training Center Promotion

The Training Academy is pleased to announce the appointment of **Fred Cain** to the position of curriculum design specialist. Fred has worked at the Missouri State Penitentiary and Central Missouri Correctional Center in positions ranging from corrections officer to lieutenant. Fred has worked at the Training Academy since 1997. Fred brings years of corrections, training, and curriculum design experience to the design unit. •

#### Retirements

After nearly 21 years of service, **Frances Southern** is retiring. Southern most recently worked in the District 30 Probation and Parole Office. The Missouri Department of Corrections thanks Southern for her dedication and years of service. •

#### Award continued from front page

card. There are charges for utilizing the card at an ATM or for other cash advance type services.

This process streamlined the release process for the Department of Corrections saving time, money, and resources. The program, which cost about \$40,000.00 to create, paid for itself within the first year. Additional savings will be realized through staff time. Addition-

ally, this process adds a new dimension of security by eliminating the handling of millions of dollars in cash annually by the department.

This program highlights our commitment to the Missouri Reentry Process and has established a model for other states to emulate. •

#### **PATCH: Parents and Their Children Program Turns 25**

Chillicothe Correctional Center played host to the 25 year celebration of PATCH. The PATCH program stands for Parents and Their Children and provides parenting classes and "home-like visits" to incarcerated mothers. This program was established in 1984.

PATCH also celebrated **Coleen Scott**'s 22 years as PATCH visit coordinator. She has been a strong advocate for the PATCH program and is resigning her title at the end of October.

At the ceremony State Representative Mike Lair shared his appreciation for this program, and offenders also got to share their stories about being involved in PATCH.

PATCH is a not-for-profit organization in Chillicothe, Mo. It is run by volunteers who provide their time to help with transportation of children and provide supervision for PATCH visits. This program creates bonds between incarcerated mothers and their children.

### A Closer Look: Citizens Advisory Committee

Members of the Citizens Advisory Committee came together in Jefferson City to hear from DOC staff about the latest issues facing corrections. The 13 members, appointed by the governor, consider offender grievances and make recommendations to resolve issues brought forth.

**Director Lombardi** welcomed the group and thanked them for their services. Lombardi expressed that a viable grievance procedure enhances the safety and security of each institution.

"It is that impactful. It gives offenders comfort to know a third party group is giving objective and impartial recommendations," says Lombardi.



The group gathers monthly at correctional facilities around the state. They also conduct on-site inspections.

Some of the topics discussed this month included the department's certified religious diet and population. **Lisa Jones**, with the Constituent Services Department, discussed their role in the grievance process and shared the latest report, detailing contacts made and issues brought forward by offenders, offender families and Missouri lawmakers •

# Restorative Justice Project Supports Victims Foundation

Brenda Neff recently spoke at Maryville Treatment Center's (MTC) Impact of Crime on Victims Class. Neff is the founder of Abby's Hugs, a foundation that provides stuffed animals, coloring books and crayons to hospitalized children. Neff formed Abby's Hugs after her three-year-old daughter, Abrielle Neff, died as a result of a car accident involving a drunk driver in March 2007.

MTC offenders are involved in making coloring books for the foundation. During her recent visit, Neff was presented with 220 coloring books.

Offender Giles Chapman, who serves as an offender facilitator for the Impact of Crime on Victims Classes, presents Brenda Neff with some of the coloring books made by offenders in Restorative Justice.



#### MTC: Apples Picked, Donated

Six offenders picked 454 pounds of apples from the Maryville Treatment Center's apple trees located in the Restorative Justice Garden. Chuck Redden and Bob Shackelford from Maintenance delivered 167 pounds of apples to the Ministry Center, 99 pounds to the Autumn House and 188 pounds to the Senior Center.





**Patricia Stathem**, right, Restorative Justice coordinator at Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center, presents a quilt made by offenders to Barb Jennings for the Louisiana, Missouri, Kroger store's Relay for Life Team.

# Lifesayer

The department's Lifesaver Award honors those staff members that intervene in serious situations in order to save a person's life. The following staff received this prestigious award:

#### ACC:



#### CCC:

Corrections Officer I Robert Smith received the award for his courageous actions when he saved a civilian from being beaten by another man with a baseball bat. His brave acts saved the person's life. •



Corrections Officer I **Michael Brune**, above center, received the Lifesaver Award for saving a fellow officer from choking in the dining hall. Deputy Warden **Bill Schmutz**, left, presented the award while Acting Major **George Adkison** looked on. •

#### **WRDCC:**

CO III Cade Thompson, CO II Derick Roach, CO II Travis Brown, CO I Megan Bravo, CO I Daniel Morrow, CO I Paul Tiemann, CO I Dennis Marshall, CO I Gary Watson, CO I John Mowry and CO I Joseph McCarthy were honored for coming to the aid of fellow officer Thomas Beach. Officer Beach was sitting in a chair and appeared to be having seizures, which led to a heart attack. The group immediately took control, administering CPR and chest compressions. Despite their heroic actions, sadly, Officer Beach passed away later that afternoon while in the hospital.

IAC **Brenda Sullivan** received the award for coming to the aid of a fellow diner at a local restaurant who was choking.

CCWI **Bob Griffin**, CO I **Charles Brown**, CO II **Derick Roach**, CO I **Charles Roberts** and CO I **Paul Tiemann** were honored for coming to the aid of an offender who was attempting suicide. •

#### **ERDCC:**



During the morning meal COI **Tara Carty** observed an offender choking on a biscuit and began administering back blows to the offender until the object dislodged and he was able to breathe.

While on duty, COI **Gary Beauchamp** (right) and

COII Carl Brawley (left) responded to an offender attempting to commit a suicidal act. COI Beauchamp and COII Brawley

stopped the offender's attempt to injure himself

and secured the area until medical staff arrived •





## **Be Prepared for Emergencies**

In January of this year, many southeast Missourians as well as department facilities/employees were without power for at least several days due to an ice storm. Recently, the Paducah, Kentucky, National Weather Service completed an informal survey on citizen preparedness. Many of their citizens reported they did not have a three-day emergency kit because the list was too long, they weren't sure what to buy, or supplies were too costly to purchase all the suggested items. It was then decided to sponsor a 3-Day Emergency Kit Campaign, which breaks down items to be purchased over a three month period. For a family of four, the entire

kit costs less than \$100 per month. Most families already have some of the suggested items and just need to supplement the rest to make an emergency kit.

With inclement weather approaching, this three-day emergency kit plan can enhance DOC staff's preparedness as well as their health and safety.

#### 1st month

### Basic foods – Items ready-to- eat.

Examples of foods and quantities: tuna (4 cans), chicken (2 cans), chili (2 cans), canned pasta (8 cans), soups (2 cans), vegetables (8 cans), juices (1 six-pack), fruit (3 cans), peanut butter (1 jar), pow-

dered milk (1 box), cereal (1 box), granola bars (1 box), trail mix (1 box), jelly (1 jar), crackers (1 box), sugar, salt/pepper and water (1 gallon per person per day).

#### 2nd month

# Basic supplies, personal hygiene, and cooking supplies:

toothbrush (4), toothpaste (1), moist wipes (2 boxes), hand sanitizer (1 bottle), toilet paper (1 package), feminine items, brush and comb (1 each), prescription medicines, baby items, charcoal (1 bag), lighter fluid (1 can), manual can opener, paper towels (2 rolls), and one package each of paper plates, paper bowls, plastic cups, plastic ware, ziplock bags.

#### 3rd month

### Miscellaneous basic supplies:

radio FM/AM Weather, light source (flashlight, battery operated lamps, oil lanterns, light sticks), batteries, first aid kit, matches (1 box) or butane lighter, whistle (1), trash bags (1 box), bleach (1 gallon jug), disinfectant (1 bottle), aspirin (1 bottle), anti-diarrhea (1 bottle), antacid (1 bottle), pencil and paper, corded phone, several candles, blankets (4), towels (4), basic tools, plastic sheeting, duct tape and clothing items (sturdy shoes, work gloves, hat, rain gear). •

# SEMA and Other Response Agency Staff Tour Southeast Missouri

A major earthquake centered in the New Madrid Seismic Zone is potentially one of the most serious natural hazard threats facing the state of Missouri. Most experts agree that it is not a matter of if, but when, a significant earthquake will occur. Identifying the locations of State Staging Areas, State Points of Distribution, and State Base Camps is of paramount importance for conducting effective disaster response and recovery operations. Accordingly, a project is underway to identify locations for these sites.



#### **SEMA** continued from page 9

The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) as well as other critical response agency staff set out on a week long journey to find sites/property that provide a critical component to disaster response preparations. The tour included a stop at the Southeast Correctional Center (SECC) on October 1, 2009.

"This is a mutual effort and solicits cooperation from the public as well as the private sector," said Keith Russell. SEMA Resource Section Chief.

Mr. Russell also related that "the SECC staff met with the Disaster Terrain Management team and gave a field briefing of the facility's assets and services that

would possibly be available during a disaster. Our only regret was that time did not allow us to visit more Correctional facilities on this trip. We hope to capture information on other correctional facilities and their capabilities in the near future. Past experience has taught us that corrections has been innovative in planning and responding to disasters. Their key role in transportation as well as coordination of distribution of generators in past disasters have aided many Missouri citizens."

The department continues to be resolute in our mission to assist communities and other state agencies during emergencies. •

### Transitional Home **Hopes To Improve Reentry Success**

In October, the PowerHouse Community Development Corporation (PCDC) opened their Fresh Start Facility in Marshall, Missouri. The house is part of the Missouri Reentry Process and will be a place for offenders to stay after their release. Obtaining housing upon release can be challenging. The organization says the home assists offenders with getting a fresh start. Residents have 60 days before they must begin to pay rent and the average stay is expected to be six months to a year.

PCDC will also offer job training, educational opportunities and life skills courses. The organization will provide transportation for residents to and from work. •

# **Preparing to go**

A Resource Fair at the Tipton Correctional Center aims to make community reintegration successful. More than 230 offenders, who are set to be released within six months, were linked with organizations that provide transitional services. Forty organizations from around Missouri were on site to provide information. The various organizations offer services such as substance abuse programs, educational opportunities, vocational training, clothing and food assistance programs, and much more.

To be successful, the Missouri Reentry Process must be a cooperative effort with the community. These partnerships are essential to providing the support, tools, resources and opportunities offenders need upon release. •

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in department-wide news

# Around the

#### **Bonne Terre** –



Employee Health Nurse Heather Meador presented Warden Steve Larkins with a fishing package.

This month the Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (ERDCC) hosted a wellness day for staff. A wide selection of vendors were hand on for demonstrations provided and samples of their products. Items

ranging from home decor, health and beauty products, gym memberships, medical services and health care information were available. Participants received hand and back massages, and blood pressure and blood sugar checks. A large part of the program focused on illness prevention. The event was designed to provide all employees with a stress free work day. Organizers say the event was a huge success.

#### **Bonne Terre** –



Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center held their 1st Annual Special Olympics Golf Tournament at Terre Du Lac Country Club. Thirty-four players made up nine teams that battled inclement weather for a good cause. The event raised \$300 for Special Olympics. First place went to the ERDCC team of Mark Baker, Bob Byland, Bucky Daugherty, and Steven Stegall. The award for Longest Drive went to Adam Shoffner and the Longest Putt was claimed by Farmington Correctional Center's Les Semar.

**Bonne Terre** – OSA-K **Melanie Kater** is ERDCC's Employee of the Month. Mrs. Kater has been a model employee and has gone above and beyond her normal duties, assisting the acting safety manager while Al Henderson was deployed on military duty. Kater's assistance during this time ensured the safety and security of the institution was at its highest.

#### Jefferson City -

(Submitted by Amber Gallagher, CCA)



This year a strange sight graced the walkways of Algoa Correctional Center (ACC) – a caravan of greenhaired supervisory staff. This unusual sight celebrated the second

annual Green Hair Tour of ACC, a new and very effective fundraising effort for the annual Charitable Campaign. Supervisors who had 100 percent participation from their staff were treated to a chili dog lunch and a green hair makeover. The supervisors who did not get 100 percent participation had to serve lunch to the winners. After each of the 10 supervisors was adorned with bright green hair, they then proceeded in a caravan around the institution as staff watched from the sidelines.

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In addition each of the wardens also had donation boxes in the Administration Building. Each warden selected a charity of his choice and the proceeds from the donation boxes went to their charity. In this competition the warden with the fewest donations was selected to participate in the Green Hair Tour. This year, Executive II Steve Samson and ASO Kelly Morris were the winners. In these tough economic times it was heartening to see so many DOC staff giving so much. One unnamed donor left a 100 dollar bill in each of the four warden donation boxes

The Green Hair Tour has been a great success for the Charitable Campaign. The 2010 totals almost tripled the 2008 totals (the year before the Green Hair Tour began), raising a grand total of \$8,657.38 with 101 staff participating. This was a dramatic increase over the \$3,770.00 with 32 participating for 2008.

The Green Hair Tour began in 2008, during the 2009 Charitable Campaign. Then ACC Warden Ellis McSwain felt that the Charitable Campaign was important. He and the other wardens and the major volunteered to dye their hair green for the cause. It received a tremendous response, and raised \$8,340.64 that year with even more this year. Next year, staff is campaigning for 100 percent participation from all departments. While the focus of the event is charity, who doesn't want to see their supervisor with green hair?

Jefferson City - The Central Office Complex, including 2729 Plaza Drive, 2728 Plaza Drive, 117 Commerce and 1717 Industrial Drive; Information Systems; Probation and Parole Central Office; District 27; Algoa Correctional Center and Jefferson City Correctional Center particiapted in the Make a Difference food drive to benefit the Samaritan Center. A total of 983 pounds of food was collected

Maryville – Maryville Treatment Center (MTC) announced its employees of the month for September through November. They are, in order, Todd Wilson, electronics technician; CO I Laurie Summers; and William Kelley.

Maryville - Vicki Stevens received MTC's Award for Excellence for the second quarter.

Maryville - The recipients of MTC's October Monthly Very Important People Award were CO I Larry Rowlett and LPN Ruth Rice. November recipients were CO I Sheila Sowards and LPN PRN Shirley Peterson.

#### Moberly -



With the holidays around the corner, we remember those who are not here to share the season with us. Staff at the Moberly Correctional Center (MCC) have taken steps to show some very special soldiers that while they are gone, they are certainly not forgotten. Corrections Officers Bill May, Trevor Newland and Matthew

#### Around the State continued from page 12



Pictures of Officers Sutor, Newland and May adorn the wall at Moberly Correctional Center. Employees put together care packages for the officers, who are currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Sutor** are currently serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. MCC employees made donations and put together 15 care packages to send abroad, along with Missouri and American flags. The Department of Corrections would like to thank all of the men and women who serve our country.

Moberly – Reese Blaine, Academic Teacher III, has been chosen MCC Employee of the Month for October 2009. Blaine was nominated by his supervisor because he is dependable and has a strong work ethic. Blaine makes it his duty to ensure offenders are



provided the best educational opportunities possible. Furthermore, Blaine shows the ability to maintain a secure testing room with test integrity a top priority.

**Moberly** – Employees of the Moberly Correctional Center hosted a blood drive in honor of two Moberly citizens, Kevin Sears and Caden Mast, who are currently battling cancer. The event netted 56 attendees, six first time donors and 46 productive units of blood.

**Pacific** – **Bob** Hill was named the employee of the quarter for the Division of Offender Rehabilitative Services. Hill is a factory manager for Missouri Vocational Enterprises at Missouri Eastern Correctional Center.

**Region V** – **Diana Blocker**, institutional parole officer at Farmington Correctional Center, was named employee of the second quarter for Region V Probation and Parole. While watching the news, Diana saw a report on a bank robbery and from the surveillance video shown, identified the robber as an individual from her caseload whom she had released a few weeks prior. She immediately contacted St. Louis County, and the suspect was apprehended.

**St. Joseph** – Western Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (WRDCC) announced its employees of the month for September through November. They are, in order, CO I Cheryl Henry, CO I Opal Beers, and CO I Robert McDowell.

**Tipton** – Correctional Officer **Tyler Richardson** has been selected as the October Employee of the Month at Tipton Correctional Center. COI Richardson is a resident of Versailles area. Richardson's selection comes after his quick action in saving the life of an offender that was choking. Warden **Jill McGuire** presented COI Richardson with a letter of appreciation. He will also receive a monetary gift and the use of a front row parking space for the month.

**Vandalia** – Captain **Robert Brothers** and OSAK **Georgie Chatman** were named October employees of the month at Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center (WERDCC). •

